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# Pennsylvania in Autobiography

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*Pennsylvania in  
Autobiography*



**Raymond P. Shafer, Governor  
J. R. Rackley, Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Ernest E. Doerschuk Jr., State Librarian**

**January 1967**

# Pennsylvania in Autobiography

## Introduction

This bibliography of Pennsylvania autobiographies can assist students, historians, librarians and general readers in their desire to gain a better understanding of the culture and history which are a part of our heritage. But there is a greater reward to be found in the reading of autobiographies. As we read the lives of famous as well as common men, the conviction grows on us that man is surely the most remarkable tenant of this planet. We realize that if he is an animal (a rather whimsical theory) he is the only time-binding and ruminative animal. He is able, therefore, to discern a pattern in his own life as well as in the lives of men who lived generations ago. The seemingly random, trivial vicissitudes of his life, in fact, are leading him straight onward, grooved to iron rails, to his destiny. He stubbornly clings to his conviction that all is not in vain, that all will come right in the end. This realization gives hope, hope stimulates courage, and courage develops in him the strength which he must have if he is to travel, in good cheer, a common road with his fellow man.

The entries are brief; however, each citation contains author, title, place and date of publication and an abbreviation of the name of the library in which the book may be found. (See Guide to Symbols, paragraph II, following). The number which appears at the right of each citation refers to a subject entry in the Professional and Occupational Index (paragraph III, following).

Books published after 1960, fictional autobiographies, diaries, journals, manuscripts and short sketches in volumes of collected autobiography are not included. A supplement, which will include books published after 1960, is planned. Credit for seeking out and compiling the 228 entries contained herein goes to Dr. Glenn S. Weight, special assistant in the General Library Division of the State Library.

ERNEST E. DOERSCHUK, Jr.  
State Librarian

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- Carey, Matthew, (1760). MATTHEW CAREY'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY. New York, 1948. Publisher in colonial Philadelphia. PSL-H
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- Fritz, John, (1822). AUTOBIOGRAPHY. . . NEW YORK, 1912. Ironmaster. PSL-H
- Gardner, Leonard M., (1831). SUNSET MEMORIES. Gettysburg, 1941. Methodist clergyman. DLC
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- Gillespie, Elizabeth, (1821). BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE. Philadelphia, 1901. Author was active in social, civil life of Philadelphia. PSL-H
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- Ickes, Harold L., (1874). AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A CURMUDGEON. New York, 1943. U. S. Secretary of Interior during Roosevelt administration. PSL-H
- Jackson, William, (1794). THE MAN OF SORROWS. Boston, 1842. Baptist clergyman. UnPa
- Johnson, Emory R., (1864). LIFE OF A UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR. Philadelphia, 1943. Professor and dean at Wharton School of Finance, Philadelphia. PSL-H
- Johnston, N. R. LOOKING BACK FROM THE SUNSET LAND. Oakland, Cal., 1898. Educator and editor of Our Banner, a religious magazine. CSmH
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- Johnston, William G., (1828). LIFE AND REMINISCENCES. Pittsburgh, 1901. Author's life in Pittsburgh, to 1848. PSL-H
- Jones, George F., (1811). MYSELF AND OTHERS. Philadelphia, 1887. Dry goods merchant in Philadelphia. HiSoPa UnPa
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- Kalbfus, Joseph H., (1852). DR. KALBFUS' BOOK. Altoona, 1926. Secretary of Pennsylvania Game Commission for twenty-four years. PSL-H
- Kane, John K., (1814). AUTOBIOGRAPHY; MYSELF . . . TO 1849. Lawyer. PStU
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- Leach, Frank W., (1855). F.W. LEACH, A PARTIAL PORTRAIT. . . Lancaster, 1943. Pennsylvania lawyer active in Republican party work. PSL-H
- Lee, Jarena, (1783). THE LIFE AND RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCES OF . . Philadelphia, 1836. FrFrLib HaC HiSoPa
- Leeth, John, (1755). A SHORT BIOGRAPHY. Author spent eighteen years with the Indians before becoming a farmer in Pennsylvania. PSL-H
- Leland, Charles, (1824). MEMOIRS. New York, 1893. Magazine editor in Philadelphia. PSL-H
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- Lehamon, William J., (1855). TWICE FORTY-FOUR (no imprint). Clergyman of Christian Union Church. MoHi
- Lighton, William B., (1805). AUTOBIOGRAPHY. Albany, 1855. Methodist clergyman. HiSoPa
- Lindvall, Carl A., (1863). REMINISCENCES OF AN OLD CLERGYMAN. Rock Island, Ill., 1936. Swedish born, Lutheran clergyman. DLC
- Logan, Deborah, (1761). THE NORRIS HOUSE. An account of the author's childhood home in Philadelphia. HiSoPa PStU
- McClure, Alexander K., (1828). RECOLLECTIONS OF HALF A CENTURY. Salem, Mass., 1902. Journalist. PSL-H
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- Peterson, Daniel H. THE LOOKING-GLASS.** New York, 1854. Negro Methodist clergyman. FrLib
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- Pleasants, Henry, (1884).** KILTS TO PANTALOONS. West Chester, Pa., 1945. Student life. PSL-H
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- Prebbe, Jedidiah, (1765).** BIRTH PARENTAGE, LIFE AND EXPERIENCES OF . . . Portland, 1830. Methodist clergyman. LibrCo
- Price, Phinehas, (1789).** A NARRATIVE. Philadelphia, 1843. Episcopalian circuit rider and physician. HiSoPa
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- Ritter, Jacob, (1751).** MEMOIRS. Philadelphia, 1844. Minister of the Society of Friends. PSL-H
- Roberts, Thomas, (1783).** MEMORIAL OF . . . Author, born in Wales served as a Baptist clergyman in Pennsylvania. DLC
- Robinson John B., (1846).** MIDSCHIPMAN TO CONGRESS. Media, Pa., 1916. Naval officer who became a lawyer and politician. DLC
- Roche, John A., (1813).** AUTOBIOGRAPHY AND SERMONS. (no imprint). Methodist clergyman. HiSoPa
- Rockwell, Frederick K., (1871).** THE LIFE AND CONFESSIONS OF . . . Ridgway, Pa., 1898. Murderer. DLC
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COLLEGE. Philadelphia, 1918. Author was		New York, 1943. Life of celebrated violinist.	
president of Haverford College. PSL-H		Filib PstU	

- Spottwood, Wilson L., (1822). BRIEF ANNALS.** 181 Harrisburg, 1888. Methodist Episcopal clergyman; college president. PSL-H
- Stanton, Daniel, (1708). A JOURNAL OF THE LIFE OF . . . Philadelphia,** 1772. Minister of Society of Friends in Philadelphia. PSU UPLib
- Starr, Frederick R., (1821). FARM ECHOES.** New York, 1881. Philadelphia businessman tries to work a farm. FrLib
- Steel, John W., (1843). COAL OIL JOHNNY.** Franklin, Pa., Life of oil field speculator and oil well operator. PSL-H
- Stein, Gertrude, (1874). THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF ALICE B. TOKLAS.** New York 1933. The author's life in France following World War I. PSL-H
- , **EVERYBODY'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY.** New York, 1937. FrLib
- Stephens, John V., (1857). FOURSCORE.** Cincinnati, 1938. Professor in theological seminary. DLC
- Stewart, John, (1795). HIGHWAYS AND HEDGES.** 188 Cincinnati, 1870. Methodist minister. NN
- Stille, Charles J., (1819). REMINISCENCES OF A PROVOST.** (no imprint). Author relates his experiences as provost of the University of Pennsylvania. PSL-H
- Stockton, Thomas H., (1808). POEMS WITH AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL NOTES.** Philadelphia, 1862. Poet and Methodist clergyman. DLC
- Stone, William A., (1846). THE TALE OF A PLAIN MAN.** Philadelphia, 1918. Lawyer, prominent Pennsylvania politician. PSL-H
- Stuart, George H., (1816). THE LIFE OF . . . Philadelphia merchant and philanthropist.** PSL-H
- Sturgess-Jones, Marion. BABES IN THE WOOD.** 193 New York, 1944. Experiences of a young woman stenographer in Philadelphia. PSL-H
- Sullivan, Louis H., (1846). THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF AN IDEA.** New York, 1924. Architect tells of his life (to 1924) in Philadelphia. PSL-H
- Sullivan, Mark, (1874). EDUCATION OF AN AMERICAN.** New York, 1938. Pennsylvania born journalist and social historian. PSL-H
- Swallow, Silas C., (1839). FOURSCORE AND 196 MORE.** Harrisburg, 1922. Methodist minister; Prohibition Party candidate for President of the U. S. PSL-H
- , **III SCORE AND X. Harrisburg, 1909.** (see entry above). PSL-H

Swisshelm, Jane Grey, (1815). HALF A CENTURY.	198	Turner, Bridges A., (1908). FROM A PLOW TO A DOCTORATE.	207
Chicago, 1880. Fighter for women's rights. PSL-H		Hampton, Va., 1945. Life of a graduate student. DUL	
Talmage, Thomas D., (1832). T. DEWITT TAL-	199	Tryon, Lewis R., (1872). POOR MAN'S DOCTOR.	208
MAGE AS I KNEW HIM. London, 1912. Clergy-		New York, 1945. Doctor in Pennsylvania mining	
man, lecturer, editor of the Christian Herald.		regions. PSL-H	
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Tamblyn, Jeremiah W., (1851). SWEET MEMO-	200	Tyng, Stephen H., (1800). AUTOBIOGRAPHY.	209
RIES OF A TRUSTFUL LIFE. Norristown,		New York, 1890. Episcopalian clergyman (1829-	
N. J., 1924. Free Methodist minister. DLC		1845). CBCH	
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New York, 1939. Journalist and biographer, born		POLITICS.	
in Erie County. PSL-H		Philadelphia, 1933. Philadelphia	
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Merchant. (no imprint). PSL-H			
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Louis, 1887. Baptist clergyman. WHi		the Pennsylvania Railroad. PSL-H	
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dence, R. I., 1812. Free-Will Baptist; itinerant		dieburg, Pa., 1919. School teacher and owner of	
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Boston, 1948. Reminiscences and re-		New York, 1951. Negro actress and	
lections of a novelist. PSL-H		singer who began her career in Philadelphia.	

- Wenger, Martin L., (1820). WENGER MEMOIRS. 214 South Bend, Ind., 1898. Farmer in Pennsylvania. InU
- West, Benjamin, (1738). THE LIFE . . . Philadelphia, 1816. Philadelphia artist. MiUC
- Weygandt, Cornelius, (1871). ON THE EDGE OF EVENING. New York, 1946. Life of a teacher and writer. PSL-H
- White, Josiah, (1781). JOSIAH WHITE'S STORY. 217 Philadelphia, 1907. Businessman engaged in canal navigation, coal mining. WU
- Widener, Peter A., (1895). WITHOUT DRUMS. 218 New York, 1940. Social leader in Philadelphia. PSL-H
- Wiggin, Kate Douglas, (1856). MY GARDEN OF MEMORY. Boston, 1923. Author of children's books. PSL-H
- Wilcox, Alanson, (1832). AUTOBIOGRAPHY. 220 Cleveland, 1912. Clergyman of the Disciples of Christ church. MoCand
- Wilson, William H., (1811). REMINISCENCES. 221 Philadelphia, 1937. Experiences in railroad construction work. PSL-H
- Wister, John, (1839). WISTER REMINISCENCES. 222 Philadelphia, 1920. Operator of Pennsylvania iron mills. PSL-H
- Wood, William B., (1779). PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS OF THE STAGE. Philadelphia, 1855. Actor and theatrical manager in Philadelphia. PSL-H
- Woodcock, E. N., (1854). FIFTY YEARS A HUNTER AND TRAPPER. Columbus, 1913. DLC
- Woodward, George, (1863). THE MEMOIRS OF A MEDIOCRE MAN. Philadelphia, 1935. Member of the state senate. FrLib
- Worcester, Elwood, (1863). LIFE'S ADVENTURE. 226 New York, 1932. Episcopal clergyman, best known for his connection with the Emmanuel Movement. NN
- Worrall, James, (1812). MEMOIRS OF COLONEL JAMES WORRALL, CIVIL ENGINEER. Harrisburg, 1887. DLC
- Young, William P., (1866). A FORD DEALER'S TWENTY YEAR RIDE. Hempstead, N. Y., 1932. As described in title. DLC

## **Guide to Symbols**

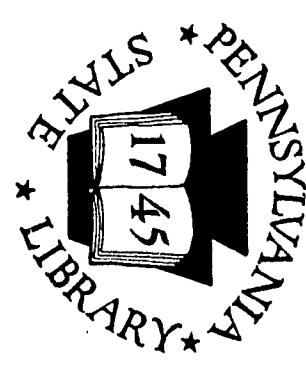
- AmBapHSCh—American Baptist Historical Society, Rochester, New York
- Athnm—Athenaeum of Philadelphia, 219 South Sixth Street
- BeaCol—Beaver College Library, Glenside, Pennsylvania
- CBCH—Church Divinity School of the Pacific, Berkeley, California
- CSmH—Huntington Library, San Marino, California
- CtMW—Wesleyan University, Middleton, Connecticut
- CU—University of California, Berkeley, California
- DLC—Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.
- DrCol—Dropsie College, Broad and York Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.
- DUL—Dillard University Library, New Orleans, Louisiana
- EaBapThs—Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Lancaster Avenue and City Line, Philadelphia, Pa.
- FrFrLib—Friends Free Library, 5418 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.
- FrHiLib—Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pa.
- FrLib—Free Library of Philadelphia, Logan Square, Philadelphia, Pa.
- GirCol—Girard College Library, Girard and Corinthian Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.
- GSL-SLC—Genealogical Society Library, Salt Lake City, Utah
- HaC—Haverford College Library, Haverford, Pennsylvania
- HiSoPa—Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
- IaHi—State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa
- InGo—Goshen College Library, Goshen, Indiana
- InU—Indiana University Library, Bloomington, Indiana
- LibrCo—Library Company of Philadelphia, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
- LuthnThs—Lutheran Theological Seminary, 7301 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.
- MH—Harvard University Library, Cambridge, Massachusetts
- MiDB—Detroit Public Library, Detroit, Michigan

MiU—University of Michigan Library, Ann Arbor, Michigan	PStU—Pennsylvania State University Library, University Park, Pa.
MiUC—Clements Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan	RefEpSem—Theological Seminary of the Reformed Episcopal Church, 25 S. 43rd Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
MnMS—St. Olaf College Library, Northfield, Minnesota	Schwldr HL—Schwenkfelder Library, Pennsbury, Pa.
MoCanD—Historical Society, Disciples of Christ, Canton, Missouri	SwarCol—Swarthmore College Library, Swarthmore, Pa.
MoHi—Missouri State Historical Society, Springfield, Missouri	TNF—Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee
MWA—American Antiquarian Society Library, Worcester, Massachusetts	TU—Temple University, Park Avenue and Berks Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
McD—Duke University Library, Durham, North Carolina	TxDAM—Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas
NN—New York Public Library, New York City	TxU—University of Texas, Austin, Texas
NNC—Columbia University Library, New York City	UnPa—University of Pennsylvania Library, 3420 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.
NNG—General Theological Seminary, New York City	UPLib—University of Pittsburgh Library, Cathedral of Learning, Pittsburgh, Pa.
NRCR-S—Rochester School of Divinity, Rochester, New York	WeThSo—Westminster Theological Seminary, Willow Grove Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.
PrHiSo—Presbyterian Historical Society, 520 Witherspoon Building, Philadelphia, Pa.	WHi—State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin
PSew—Sewickley Public Library, Sewickley, Pennsylvania	WRHSS-C—Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, Ohio
PSL-H—Pennsylvania State Library, Harrisburg, Pa.	WStCol—State College Library, West Chester, Pa.
	WU—University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin

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